MAN AND WIFE LIVE ON $1 A WEEK

University of Chicago economists who have figured that a man and his wife can live with great frugality on $300 a year are distanced by the record of ex-Judge William Cole Talcot, of Valparaiso, Ind. That aged jurist has for several years lived with his wife at a total expense for both of them for food of not more than $1 a week, or $52 for the year. And in spite of this both are now in the best of health, declare that they never felt better nor could work better in their lives, and believe that they have solved the problem of happiness and health in resorting to the plainest of plain living. Though nearly 85 years old Judge Talcot works daily in a garden near his house or about the house itself, is never ill, and is apparently as strong as most men who are not within a score of years of his age. And Mrs. Talcot, not quite ten years his junior, though snowy white of hair, has as fresh a color in her cheeks as a girl of 15, and does every day all the housework about their home.

Though the diet on which this is accomplished will appear to many people barren of everything that makes the table attractive, yet the two who have long made it their own declared that desire for other things quickly disappeared when they resorted to it, and that they neither want nor need additions to it. The rule of their table provides in general that their meals shall consist chiefly of cereal products with milk and sugar. They eat generally for breakfast oatmeal mush and milk and sugar. For dinner bread and milk and sugar, and for supper cornmeal mush and sugar. They vary this slightly from time to time with other cereal foods, and when they feel a taste for it add a bit of meat, for neither is a strict vegetarian.

For two-thirds of a century William Cole Talcot has been known as a leader in social reforms in Northern Indiana. He came from the East in 1835 on an excursion trip around the great lakes on one of the earliest steamers. The vessel ran up to the Sault Ste. Marie, then in the midst of the great Northwestern wilderness. From there it went into Green Bay, and its passengers beheld along the shores of that beautiful water the virgin forest, in which lived Indians almost unacquainted with white men, save as they met the descendants of the early French pioneers or the few Americans who had penetrated thus far into the wilderness for furs. Out through Death's Door they came, and up the lake to Chicago, and from this straggling hamlet across the lake to Michigan City. There where a great city was expected to grow Judge Talcot left the boat and soon after settled in St. Joseph County. He has lived in that vicinity nearly ever since, and most of the time at Valparaiso.

Even in his youth he was a thinker along original lines. Having when a boy been given a scholarship in college by a church educational society, he became convinced during his freshman year that the creed of the church which was supporting him was narrow and was founded on myths and traditions. He therefore resigned the scholarship and proceeded to study by himself. After he came to Indiana the Brook Farm communistic experiment was made and co-operation and socialistic colonies became much talked about. The young Talcot took the lead in Northern Indiana—in which there were scattered farming settlements and small towns—and in 1844 started the Philadelphia Industrial Association. Land was secured near South Bend, about two miles from the original town site, on the river, and a house and other buildings put up. There were nine families of seventy persons in the community, numbering cobblers, carpenters, farmers and men of other trades, and the plan was strictly a Commonwealth. All went well for a time. The land, however, had been secured from two different parties, who were at swords' points, and the troubles between these two soon destroyed any notion of "brotherly love" in the philadelphic community. A big common house had been built for a starter, having a separate entrance and room for each family and a common dining-room in the center, and there were outbuildings and plans for larger houses, but after two and a half years of existence the colony finally disbanded.

After that Mr. Talcot was elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, with jurisdiction over six counties. He held this office fifteen years. He had been before this owner and editor of the local paper—the Valparaiso Vidette—and after resigning from the bench again took charge of the paper and conducted it for thirty years. In the early years he found it necessary often to set and print as well as write the paper.

Having been thus in the public eye for three score years, Judge Talcot has come to have great influence among the people of Porter County. He has kept to his free thought, and is now leader in the Dr. Thomas branch of the People's Church in that city. Judge Talcot is as keen in putting forth his reform ideas to-day as at any time in his earlier life, and in them he has the unqualified support of his wife. The latter was for many years a teacher of penmanship in the "Collegiate Institute" of Valparaiso, and was a close friend of Judge Talcot and his first wife.

"There are two things for people to do to be happy and be healthy," says Mrs. Talcot. "They must live plainly and they must sleep at night instead of half the daytime. Early to bed and early to rise is a wise motto and plain living is another. In our opinion an expenditure of $300 a year for two people would be great extravagance. To be sure, we have no rent to pay and we have milk sent to us by Mr. Talcot's son, but even if we had these things to pay for we would not need to spend $300 a year. We do not stint ourselves, but we follow a wise creed by living plainly when we are at home or when on the railroad."

AN INGENIOUS CALCULATOR.

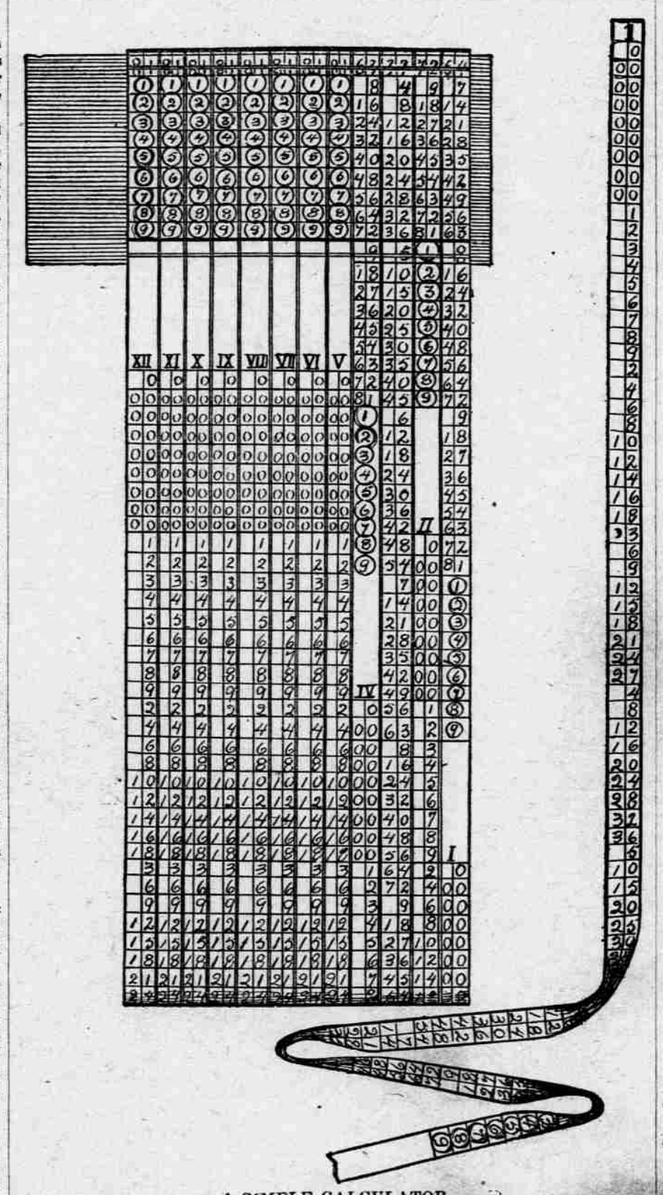
A Chinese Invention Remarkable for Its Simplicity.

A calculator remarkable for its simplicity and ingenuity and entirely different from other machines which employ a series of tapes, has been patented by Chow Ling Shang, of Macao, China, and is described in the Scientific American. The device considerably simplifies multiplication and division. Our illustrations show the complete apparatus and one of the tapes employed.

Upon a base of wood or other material guides are secured which form passages for a series of endless tapes. In our illustration the tapes are designated by the Roman numerals I., II., III., IV., etc. Each tape is longitudinally divided into two columns and into groups of nine numerals each. In the first group all the figures are zeroes; in the second group the numbers "1" to "9" are inscribed; in the third group the number "2" and its multiples up to "18" are written, the units being in the right hand column and the tens in the left hand column. In the next groups are the multiples of 3, 4, etc., up to the multiples of 9, after which the multiples 1 to 9 appear in the center of the tape, the division of the tape into two columns being abandoned at that point.

When it is desired, for example, to find the product of eight times eight thousand four hundred and ninety-seven, the tapes I., II., III., IV., are moved until the numbers "8," "4," "9," "7," of the tapes are on the same horizontal line, the other tapes being left in their normal positions. In the eighth line will be found the number "56" on tape I.; in the same line, tape II. bears the number "72;" tape III. the number "32;" and tape IV. the number "64." The product is obtained by noting for each tape the number contained in the right hand column of that tape, with the addition of the number in the left hand column of the next tape to the right. In other words, contiguous numbers of different tapes are added. Thus, in the present case, "2" and "5" from tapes I. and II. are added. "2" and "7" from tapes II. and III., and "4" and "3" from tapes III. and V. The result obtained is "67,976," which is the product sought. The figuring of other products is readily understood from this example. To multiply by a number larger than 10, the well-known method of adding the results of partial multiplications is employed.

In division the calculator is employed to find multiples of the divisor and to do away with tedious multiplication. In dividing 212,425 by 8,497, for instance, 21,242 is divided by 8,497, as usual, giving 2 as the first figure in the quotient; the calculator may be used for this operation, since it shows that 21 (in the thousands) is between the double (16,994) and the triple (25,491) of 8,497. Twice 8,497 is then read off as 16,994, and subtracted from 21,242, leaving 4,248. To this remainder is added the last figure, 5; and 42,485 is then divided by 8,497. The machine shows at a glance that 42,485 is equal to 5 multiplied by 8,497. The result of the division is therefore 25.



A SIMPLE CALCULATOR.

Ruskin's Mother.

"My mother's general principles of treatment," says Mr. Ruskin, "were to guard me with steady watchfulness from all avoidable pain and danger; and, as for the rest, to let me amuse myself as I like, provided I was neither fretful nor troublesome.

"But the law was that I should find my own amusement. No toys of any kind were at first allowed. Nor did I ever painfully wish for what I was never permitted for an instant to hope for, or even imagine the possession of, such things as one saw in toy shops. I think it should be related that I was steadily whipped if I was troublesome.

"In all these particulars I think the treatment of mychildhood was entirely right. As soon as I was able to read fluently my mother began a course of Bible work with me, which never ceased until I went to Oxford."

An Odorless Onion.

The latest product of scientific propagation is the odorless onion. Just how an onion can be odorless and still remain an onion is not explained. To most people the odor is all there is of an onion and that is enough. The elimination of the characteristic feature of a vegetable of such long and strong standing in natural history ought to be reckoned among the proudest achievements of man. But an onion deprived of that delicious tang and the penetrating scent which goes with it, can hardly be an onion. The palate which loves onions will not recognize it; calling a whitened, innocuous, insipid, plated bulb an onion will not make it one.

No true lover of onions will hail this new invasion of science. He eats his onion at dead of night, in silence and solitude. He rejoices in it and sleeps upon it. The incense of his praise fills the room and soothes him to delicious sleep. He rises in the morning after his sacrifice to pass the day in purification, to see no one till the sun hath sunk with indigestible substances, its rudiment vegetable can command such devotion from its votaries. It is a luxury and a worship. Shall he yield all this delight for an odorless bulb? Let others do as they will, he will not. An onion without its odor would be ashamed of itself.—Milwaukee Journal.

How Lincoln Rebuked His Critics.

At the White House one day during the Civil War, some gentlemen were present from the West, excited and troubled about the commissions or omissions of the administration. President Lincoln heard them patiently, and then replied; "Gentlemen, suppose all the property you were worth was in gold, and you had put it in the hands of Blondin to carry across the Niagara river on a rope, would you shake the cable or keep shouting out to him, 'Blondin, stand up a little straighter; Blondin, stoop a little more; go a little faster; lean a little more to the north; lean a little more to the south?' No, you would hold your breath as well as your tongue, and keep your hands off until he was safe over. The government are carrying an immense weight. Untold treasures are in their hands. They are doing the very best they can. Don't badger them. Keep silence and we'll get you safe across."

A Remarkable Calculator.

Diamandi, a native of Pylaros, one of the Greek Islands, seems to be a remarkable calculator. After a mere glance at a black-board, on which thirty groups of figures are written, he can, it is said, repeat them in any order and deal with them in any arithmetical process. It is said that he never makes an error in calculations involving billions, and he can extract square or cube roots with marvellous rapidity and accuracy. An eminent German specialist declared the other day that these ready-reckoners were idiots. This is not the case with Diamandi, who writes poetry and novels in the intervals of business, and shows considerable intellectual capacity.

A Chinese Typewriter.

The Rev. Sheffield, a Presbyterian minister at Tung Chow, has invented a typewriter for the Chinese language. This machine is capable of writing 4,000 characters, which are carried around the circumference of numerous type-wheels. It requires the depression of two keys in order to print a simple character.

A lover's quarrel is the sauce that seasons the courtship.

"How long is the ride from your place to the city?" asked the man who contemplated moving.

"Well, it varies," replied the suburbanite.

"Varies? How?"

"Well, some mornings we play as many as ten hands of whist in the smoking car, and other mornings not more than seven."—Philadelphia Press.

A Noticeable Coolness Between Them.

Part of the Cure.

Mr. Henpeck—The doctor says I absolutely must go away next week for a rest.

Mrs. Henpeck—Goodness! I can't possibly manage to get away to go with you then.

Mr. Henpeck—Um-m! I guess the doctor must have known that.—Philadelphia Press.

He—I can't see for the life of me why a woman would rather work in a millinery store, for instance, for little or nothing a week, than to get good wages and good living taking care of some one's house.

She—Well, for one thing, a hired girl never has the delicious joy of selling some other woman a hat that makes her look like a fright.—Indianapolis Press.

A Chip.

Mark—I saw that little boy of yours to-day.

Borroughs—Did you? Think he's like me?

Mark—Very much.

Borroughs—Do you really?

Mark—Yes. He asked me for some money.—Philadelphia Press.

Consistent.

Marjorie—Clara had eleven dozen spoons among her wedding presents.

Marguerite—Well, that's the way she and Tom have been acting for the last twelve months.—Somerville Journal.

Convincing.

Amicus—So you have another baby at your house. What is he like?

Eminent Critic—Well, he is not very interesting, but he is mighty convincing.—Life.

SHEET MUSIC BARGAINS.

FAMILIAR SONGS ILLUSTRATED.

URBANITY A PAYING QUALITY.

Instances in Which Courteous Men Have Found Politeness Profitable.

Many years ago the late Dr. Snippen, of Philadelphia, left his house in early morning and was hurrying down the street when he noticed a singular and ferocious-looking man, whose gaze was fastened upon him. With instinctive politeness and bonhommie he smiled, raised his hat and passed on, when suddenly he heard a shot. Turning he found that the stranger had just left his home with the insane intention of killing the first man he met. He was the first man; but his absolute fearlessness and constitutional as well as cultivated courtesy had put the man off his guard, and the next passer-by had caught the bullet intended for him. That smile and bow had saved his life.

When the country was a century younger and the Indian was yet in the land, a gentleman upon the then frontier was hunting with friends, got separated from them, and completely lost his way. Every effort to retrieve his steps led him still further into the wilderness, and night overtook him in a dense forest. Overcome with fatigue, he lay down under a tree and slept profoundly. In the morning he awoke with a start, with that indescribable feeling that some one was looking at him, and, glancing up, he saw that he was surrounded by hostile Indians, and that the leader of the band, in war paint and feathers, was bending over him in no amiable mood.

He took in the situation at a glance—knew his immediate danger, and had no means of averting it; neither did he understand a word of their language. But he was self-possessed, knew the universal language of nature, and believed that even under the war paint and feathers "a man's a man for a' that." He fixed his clear, bold eye upon the Indian, and—smiled! Gradually the fierceness passed away from the eye above him, and at last an answering smile came over the face. Both were men—both were brothers—and he was saved! The savage took him under his protection, brought him to his wigwam, and after a few days restored him to his friends. Courage, self-command, and tact had gained the day.—Lippincott's Magazine.

GEN. ZEBULON YORK.

An Able Lawyer and One of the Confederacy's Bravest Generals.

The recent death of General Zebulon York at his home in Natchez, Miss., closed the career of one of the bravest generals of the Confederacy. Gen. York was also an able lawyer and a plantation owner. He was born in Maine in 1819, but his education was obtained principally in Southern schools. After graduating in law from the Louisiana University he opened an office in Vidalia, La., and was soon recognized as one of the ablest lawyers in the State. He invested his earnings in plantations and negroes, and soon had, besides his law business, a flourishing field yielding a handsome revenue.

When the Civil War broke out Attorney York raised a company which became a part of the Fourteenth Louisiana Regiment. He fought in many of the great battles of the war and was noted for his dash and bravery. He was wounded a number of times and arose from the position of captain to that of brigadier general. After the war he set to work to again build up a fortune on the ruins of his once happy home. For some years preceding his death he lived in Natchez and there acquired wealth and honor. He was not

GEN. ZEBULON YORK.

married until 1885 and his marriage was somewhat romantic. On a bleak January day during the war he met a timid schoolgirl in Richmond, Va., who was destined to become his wife. Their meeting and engagement had a tinge of romance. The romance was only concluded Aug. 25, 1885, when the General led to his Buck Ridge plantation his mature and polished wife, whose fine talent and facile pen had long been a source of comfort and happiness to both.

Was Just Common Lying.

"The cunning of the Chinese has been very much exaggerated," said a former sea captain in conversation the other day. "I will never forget my own experience. We had arranged with a prominent Chinese merchant of Hong-Kong for a quantity of tea, but at the last minute there was a hitch about the delivery of the consignment. He told me it had been temporarily tied up by the officials on account of some misunderstanding about the internal taxes. I discovered by accident later on that the lot had been sold over my head to a chance customer and the tax story was a mere pretext to gain time for the substitution of an inferior grade.

"The tea merchant was a sedate, courtly old gentleman and he had told me the outrageous lie with perfect calmness, looking me squarely in the face, without a quiver. It never occurred to me to doubt his word and but for chance we would have been heavy losers. When I exposed him indignantly before all his employes and several foreign residents I supposed he would be ashamed and disconcerted. An American of his standing would have been humiliated and crushed beyond measure. I have known men to commit suicide for less disgrace, but he never so much as blinked. He heard me through blandly, made no comment and began to talk about something else. He had told a lie, was caught and regarded the episode as closed."

Instinct of Cats.

The instinct of animals in the matter of self-preservation is curiously illustrated, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat, by the fact that several dozen cats found refuge during the Ottawa fire in a wooden house which, although the buildings on each side were burning down, refused to catch fire and remained intact. Cats have a peculiar gift in this direction, since, in addition to their reputed nine lives, there is a popular superstition that they will only eat what is good for them.

This may or may not be a fallacy, but the instinct of self-preservation, which is common to all animals, except, perhaps, horses (who, being very bags of nerves, will during a fire behave with suicidal obstinacy), has been proved time and again. The rats which, in practice as well as in theory, desert the ship which is no longer seaworthy, are a notable example of it; and there are many animal lovers who would not consider it any way extravagant to suggest that the quacking of the geese in the capitol was due to a knowledge on their part of the facts that the entry of the enemy would mean the cutting of their throats, while the rousing of the Romans would earn them a debt of gratitude and personal immunity from the poulterer's shop windows.

Home Folks Preferred.

Small Margaret had said her prayers, and her mamma was tucking her in to leave her to her slumbers, when the child begged that mamma would not leave her alone.

"Why, Margaret," said mamma, soothingly, but surprised at this unexpected demand, "you know you are never alone, for God is always with you."

"Yes," rejoined the small maiden doubtfully, "I know. But, mamma, I'd rather have some of my own relations."—Woman's Home Companion.

A Northern Lighthouse.

The most northern lighthouse in Great Britain, the northwest tower on the coast of Shetland, is built on a rock 200 feet high, the summit of which barely affords room for the necessary buildings.

It is learned that one girl's popularity among the other girls is due to the fact that whenever she visits at their house she insists upon washing the dishes.

It's a case of misdirected energy when a young man runs after a girl who doesn't appreciate him.

The Home Field.

Mr. Haywood—The paper says that relief will soon reach the ministers in China.

Mrs. Haywood—Better let Chiny look after its own ministers while we relieve our own. Brother Stafford told me himself that he'd only got $12.80 in two months, and the folks that went to his pound party eat up all they took except that drum for his little boy and two cakes of soap.—Denver News.

Heart Hunger.

"I verily believe Maude has found her affinity in Jack."

"Do you, indeed?"

"Yes, you so seldom see her chewing gum any more."—Detroit Journal.

His Fate.

Penner—What has become of Sourgall, the critic?

Author—He wrote a book and was found out.—Life.

"Where are you going, my pretty maid?"

"Darned if I know—ask the calf," she said.

—New York World.

In Boston.

First Boy—And he claimed that the sentence was grammatically correct?

Second Boy—Yes; and eventually I had to give him two black eyes and a disfigured lip; but I respect him, for he fought for what he thought was right.—Puck.

Dressing or Filling.

"I must admit," said the mannish girl, "that I'm very fond of men's clothes. You don't like them, do you?"

"Yes, I do," replied the girly girl, frankly, "when there's a man in them."—Philadelphia Press.

A Warm Weather Tragedy.

"Ma, I brought you some ice cream from th' drugstore."

"Oh, how thoughtful, Tommy. Where is it?"

"Well, ma, it was meltin' so fast me an' Bobby had to sit down on th' curbstone an' eat it up."—Indianapolis Journal.

Even Later.

He had been talking and talking and talking until the poor girl was so tired and sleepy she din't know whether it was this week or last week, and the clock on the mantel was holding up its hands, either in pity or in protest. Finally it occurred to the young man that an evening call had its limits.

"Bless me," he exclaimed, starting up suddenly, "it certainly must be time I was going home."

"Oh," she said in a dazed kind of a way, "it must be a good deal later than that."

A Porch-Party.

"Did you have a good talk with the Dwiggses last night, daughter?"

"No, ma, we didn't talk; the men quarreled about politics and Clara and I abused the weather."

Reconsidered.

Custodian—So you changed your mind about taking that flat as soon as you went inside?

Portly—Change nothing. Wasn't room in there even to change my mind—I just backed out.—Denver News.

Proper Precaution.

He—I'm going to shave myself hereafter.

She—Won't you cut yourself?

"No; I won't have my razor sharp enough for that."

Those Dear Girl Friends.

Nell—See my new shoes. Only $3.98; aren't they good for that?

Belle—Yes. Isn't it surprising that they can sell so much leather for so very little money?—Philadelphia Record.

Do Fishes Feel the Cold?

There is no doubt that fishes, particularly many of those who inhabit fresh water, feel the cold, and that this accounts for their moving in the winter to deep water, when they have the opportunity of doing so. Some fish are much more affected than others by severe cold. Swainson mentions an instance of a number of fine tench having been found dead in a pond, after the break up of a frost, and, as a proof of vitality in other fish, he states that, in northern latitudes, eels and perch have retained their vitality when frozen into solid blocks of ice, and that advantage has been taken of the fact to remove them from one locality to another.

Fiercest of All Spiders.

There is a spider in the London zoo, obtained from somewhere in the Soudan, that is the fiercest beast of his kind that ever spread out his legs in a menegarie. The ordinary spider has only four legs on a side. This creature has five.